

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A press fit fastener, comprising:

a shank having a first end and a second end;

a head being located at the first end of said shank; and

a press fit portion being located at said shank, said press fit portion having an outer diameter and including a multiple helical profile, said helical profile having a beginning portion and an inclination portion having an increasing outer diameter, the outer diameter of said inclination portion being designed to increase in a direction towards said head to reach a maximum outer diameter, the maximum outer diameter of said inclination portion being spaced apart from said head.
2. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said press fit portion further includes a declination portion in which the outer diameter decreases in a direction towards said head.
3. (Original) The fastener of claim 2, wherein said press fit portion has a barrel-like shape.
4. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said press fit portion further includes a cylindrical adding portion, said cylindrical adding portion having the maximum outer diameter and being located next to said inclination portion in a direction towards said head.

5. (Original) The fastener of claim 2, wherein said press fit portion further includes a cylindrical adding portion, said cylindrical adding portion having the maximum outer diameter and being located next to said inclination portion in a direction towards said head.
6. (Original) The fastener of claim 4, wherein said cylindrical adding portion is located between said inclination portion and said declination portion.
7. (Original) The fastener of claim 5, wherein said cylindrical adding portion is located between said inclination portion and said declination portion.
8. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said helical profile includes at least six pitches.
9. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein said helical profile has an angle of inclination of between approximately 5° and 30° .
10. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, further comprising a threaded portion including a thread having a flank diameter, said threaded portion being located at the second end of said shank in a direction facing away from said head, said helical profile having a core diameter which is greater than the flank diameter of said thread.
11. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, further comprising a threaded portion including a thread having a flank diameter, said threaded portion being located at the

second end of said shank in a direction facing away from said head, said helical profile having a core diameter which approximately equals the flank diameter of said thread.

12. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, further comprising:

a threaded portion including a thread having an outer diameter, said threaded portion being located at the second end of said shank in a direction facing away from said head; and

a centering section having an outer diameter, said centering section being located next to said beginning portion of said helical profile, the outer diameter of said centering section being greater than the outer diameter of said thread and being smaller than the minimum outer diameter of said helical profile in the beginning portion.

13. (Original) The fastener of claim 12, wherein said centering section has an axial length which is approximately between 10 % and 50 % of the maximum outer diameter of said press fit portion.

14. (Original) The fastener of claim 12, wherein said centering section has an axial length which is approximately 25 % of the maximum outer diameter of said press fit portion.

15. (Original) The fastener of claim 1, wherein fastener is designed as a wheel stud.

16. (Original) A method of producing a press fit fastener including a shank and a head, said method comprising the steps of:

cold forming of a press fit portion at the shank of the fastener to produce a cylindrical helical profile including a plurality of pitches; and

calibrating the helical profile without producing chips to produce an inclination portion in which the outer diameter of the press fit portion in a direction towards the head increases to reach the maximum outer diameter, the maximum outer diameter of the inclination portion being spaced apart from the head.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein calibrating without producing chips is realized by rolling.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein calibrating without producing chips is realized by precision forming.